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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,811	02/05/2004	Barry Algren	30679/39713	5957

4743 7590 04/22/2005

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EXAMINER

KOVACS, ARPAD F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3671

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/772,811	Applicant(s) ALGREN ET AL.	
	Examiner Árpád Fábián Kovács	Art Unit 3671	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4-5, 7-12, 14-20, 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Berner (4190972).

Berner discloses:

In re independent claims 1, 9, 16:

a drive housing disposed on the body;

a cavity disposed in the body, the cavity having a first side, a second side, and

An apparatus for moving particulate matter, comprising:

at least a partial semi-circular cross-sectional shape;

a paddle assembly having a shaft and a plurality of paddles disposed

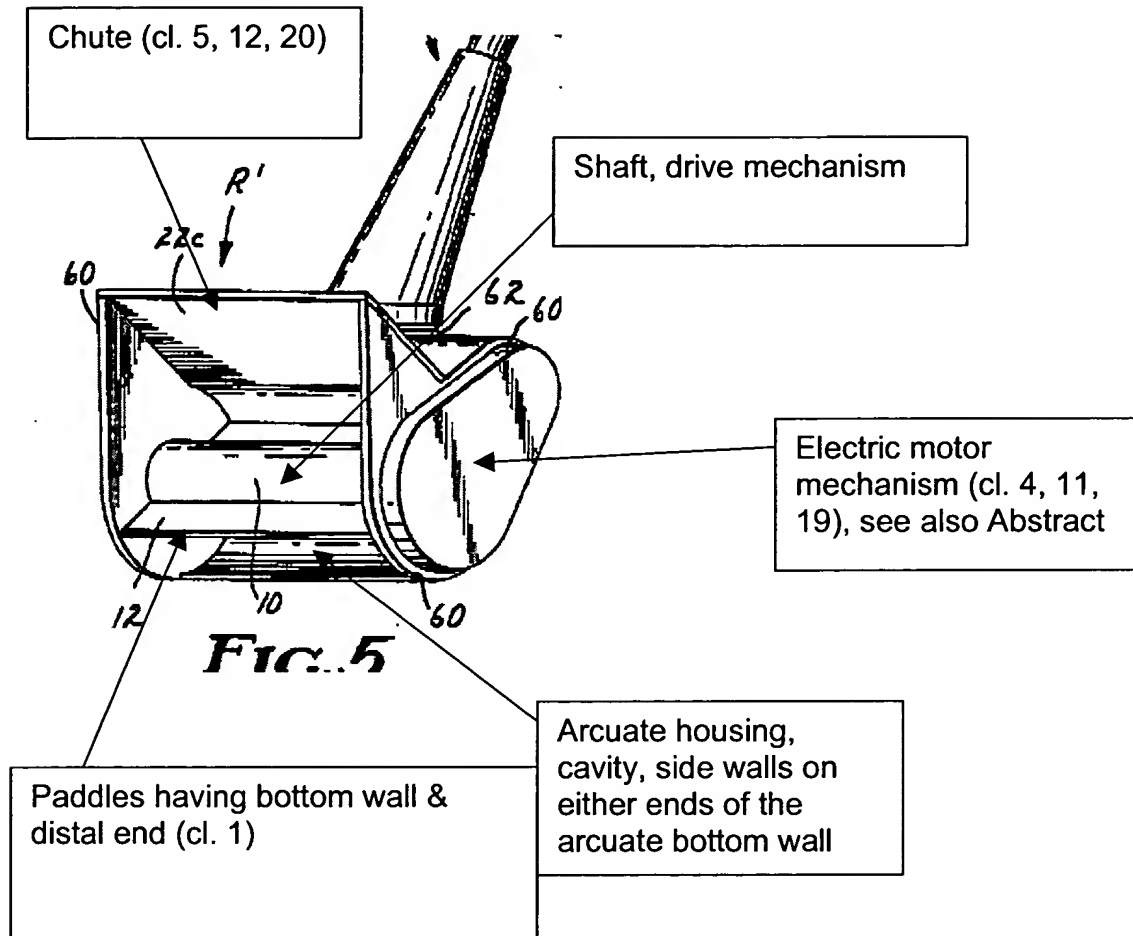
therefrom, each paddle having a bottom wall and a distal end, wherein the distal end

travels along the semi-circular cross-sectional shape of the cavity during operation,

and the bottom wall is sized and shaped to extend along a width of the paddle in a

substantially planar manner between the first side wall and the second side wall of the cavity; and

a drive mechanism disposed in the drive housing, the drive mechanism operatively connecting the motor and the shaft.



as shown in fig 3, cross section, each paddle includes a pair of side walls;

in re claim 16:

any motor similar to the one shown by the prior art inherently includes a filter;

Art Unit: 3671

in col. 3, ln 52, it is taught that the body is constructed from a plastic material (in re cl. 7, 14, 22);

in re cl. 8, 15, 23, the “particulate matter” is recited in the intended format, therefore the grain use is met by Berner, since it is capable to be used for any particulate matter, including grain.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 13, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berner (4190972).

Berner discloses the claimed invention of having a low RPM rotation except for .teaching the specific range of 350-525.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have an RPM range of 350-525, since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Boesch*, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980).

Art Unit: 3671

Claims 2, 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berner (4190972), in view of Harms et al (5966846) and/or Olmr (4951403).

Berner discloses the claimed device except for the shape of the paddles being as claimed.

Harms (fig 8) and/or Olmr (fig 2) disclose that it is known in the art to provide a curved or shaped as claimed paddles.

It would have been obvious matter of design choice to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize any shaped paddles, as taught by Harms and/or Olmr, with the apparatus for moving particular matter of Berner, in order to provide a more efficient throwing effect (as taught by Harms, col. 2, ln 37).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 3/25/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

It has been noted that applicant revised claim language, and accordingly a new rejection is provided above.

Applicant's argument in re "arcuate bottom wall" is noted to have been addressed above in view of the amendment made to claim 2. Applicant's argument regarding the side wall, does not provide for any dimensions which would be different from the side wall (as shown in the cross section outlined above) of the prior art.

Examiner disagrees that the motor would not include a filter, it is known that a motor shown by the prior art utilize a filter, otherwise the elements of motor would be subjected to dirt and any particles which would break down the equipment prematurely.

Applicant does not set forth a filter which is novel in the art; therefore, a generic filter utilized in combination of a motor meets the claimed limitation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Árpád Fábián Kovács whose telephone number is 571 272 6990. The examiner can normally be reached on Mo-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas B. Will can be reached on 571 272 6998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Árpád Fábián Kovács
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3671

ÁFK